

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated May 23, 2008, and subsequent to the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 submitted on August 25, 2008, claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24 have been canceled and claim 14 has been amended. Claims 9-12 and 14-16 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. Canceled Claims

In this Amendment, Applicants' attorney has canceled claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24, prior to this Amendment, is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24 were canceled in this Amendment solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the remaining claims. Applicants' attorney respectfully reserves the right to pursue claims, including the subject matter encompassed by claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24, as presented prior to this Amendment and additional claims in one or more continuing applications."

III. Amended Claim

In this Amendment, Applicants' attorney has amended claim 14 to correct a typographical error. This amendment was not required for patentability or to distinguish the claim over the prior art.

IV. Telephone Interview Summary

Record is made of a telephone interview between Examiner Chen and Applicants' attorney that took place on October 8, 2008. The amendments to the claims submitted in the previous response were discussed, although no agreement was reached on their allowability. The cancellation of claims 1-4, 6-8, 17-20 and 20-24 by this supplemental amendment was also discussed.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that

can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicant's undersigned attorney.

It is believed that no fees are due at this time. Nonetheless, should any charges be deemed necessary, please charge any such fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 09-0460 of IBM Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

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